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LETTER DATED 28 OCTOBER 1962 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CUBA
TO THE UNITED NATIONS, ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

No. 492

Sir,

On the instructions of the Revolutionary Government of Cuba, I have the honour to convey to you the following message:

"U Thant,

"Acting Secretary-General of the United Nations

"With reference to the statement made by Mr. John F. Kennedy, President of the United States, in a letter addressed to Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to the effect that the United States would agree, after suitable arrangements had been made through the United Nations, to remove the blockade now in effect and to give guarantees against an invasion of Cuba, and with reference to the decision, announced by Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, to withdraw strategic defence weapons facilities from Cuban territory, the Revolutionary Government of Cuba wishes to make the following statement:

"The guarantees mentioned by President Kennedy that there will be no aggression against Cuba will be ineffective unless, in addition to the removal of the naval blockade which he promises, the following measures, inter alia, are adopted:

"1. Cessation of the economic blockade and of all the measures of commercial and economic pressure being carried out by the United States against our country throughout the world.

"2. Cessation of all subversive activities, of the dropping and landing of weapons and explosives by air and sea, of the organization of invasions by mercenaries, and of the infiltration of spies and saboteurs - all of which activities are being carried on from the territory of the United States and certain accomplice countries.

"3. Cessation of the piratical attacks being carried out from bases in the United States and Puerto Rico.

"4. Cessation of all violations of our air space and territorial waters by United States aircraft and warships.

"5. Withdrawal of the naval base of Guantánamo and return of the Cuban territory occupied by the United States.

"Accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

"Major Fidel Castro Ruz
"Prime Minister of the Revolutionary
Government of Cuba."

I request you to have the text of this note circulated as an official document of the General Assembly.

Accept, Sir, etc.

(Signed) Mario García Inchaústegui
Ambassador

Permanent Representative of Cuba to the
United Nations

TRANSLATION FOLLOWS

29 October 1962

the artificial confusion spread by the reactionary press, have shown their deep concern for the fate of the world.

Still, you must have heard on the radio the latest statements made by Comrade Fidel about the current international crisis. In connection with the arguments of the Soviet Government, in connection with the efforts they are making to maintain peace, still recognizing the Cuban people's sovereignty to choose the course they wish, the Premier of the Soviet Government informed the President of the United States that he was willing to order the transfer to the Soviet Union from Cuba of the arms Kennedy says are worrying him. Kennedy gives a guarantee he is not going to invade the Republic of Cuba. Our people do not have a bad memory, and our people remember those very same words, spoken very solemnly, a few days before the mercenary imperialist attack on Playa Giron. (Applause) Therefore, Comrade Fidel issued the following declaration:

Fidel Castro's Declaration

Havana, 28 October.--With relation to the pronouncement made by the president of the United States, John F. Kennedy, in a letter sent to the premier of the Soviet Union, Nikita Khrushchev, to the effect that the United States would agree, after the establishment of adequate arrangements through the United Nations, to eliminate the measures of blockade in existence and give guarantees against an invasion of Cuba, and in relation to the decision announced by Premier Khrushchev of withdrawing the installations of arms of strategic defense from Cuba territory, the revolutionary government of Cuba declares that the guarantees of which President Kennedy speaks--that there will be no aggression against Cuba--will not exist unless, in addition to the elimination of the naval blockade he promises, the following measures among others are to be adopted: 1) Cessation of the economic blockade and all the measures of commercial and economic pressure which the United States exercises in all parts of the world against our country; 2) Cessation of all subversive activities, launching and landing of arms and explosives by air and sea, the organization of mercenary invasions, infiltration of spies and saboteurs, all of which actions are carried out from the territory of the United States and some other accomplice countries; 3) Cessation of the pirate attacks which are being carried out from bases existing in the United States and Puerto Rico; 4) Cessation of all the violations of our air and naval space by North American war planes and ships; and 5) Withdrawal of naval base of Guantanamo and the return of the Cuban territory by the United States. (Applause)